

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

March 30, 2000 LB 881, 1138

amendments. That amendment that I've filed on my own behalf is signed on by a number of members of the Revenue Committee, but we're going to have a little process here, and...but I think it is worthwhile to describe to you where the bill started as introduced. The bill, as introduced, did, I would say, three primary things. It integrated the aid pools for counties and municipalities and NRDs into a single aid pool for each one of those kinds of political subdivisions. It increased the amount of aid that would have gone to them. It provided for growth, future growth in the amount that would be appropriated as aid for each one of them, and it put in place processes for developing a greater equalization component in all of their aid formulas. Now that's the pure aid components. The other component in the bill was that it also proposed that we create some additional information on property tax statements that taxpayers receive. It's interesting because Senator Bromm just mentioned to me that on Monday he was going to bring into me a copy of a property tax statement from the state of Minnesota. I was glad that he had seen one, I was glad that he was interested in the topic, because I've seen one before that. And in part that was the reason that there was a provision in LB 1138 calling for additional information to be placed on property tax statements for taxpayers in the state of Nebraska. Right now we have a process that provides for distributing to taxpayers a kind of a summary statement, if you will, with either their property tax payment receipt or their property tax statement, and it indicates how much state aid has been paid to various political subdivisions in that county. But it does not relate that aid to any specific tract of property. In other words, you can't tell how much property tax has been relieved, or in the alternative how much higher property taxes would be for a specific tract if the aid had not been distributed to those political subdivisions. There was a process set out in LB 1138 for providing that information on future property tax statements, but it was ultimately the judgment of the committee that that was a bit much to try to implement at this time. We're changing the property tax statements this year, because of the credit that was adopted last year in LB 881 we did not want to create additional complexity and confusion, if you would, in the property tax statements. So that provision will ultimately come out, but I will suggest to you that if Senator Bromm's interest in the Minnesota tax statement and others that have